*The Great Gatsby*: Chapters V – VI (pages 81-111)

Directions: Answer these questions on a separate piece of paper as you read.

***Chapter V***

1. Upon returning home, what does Nick notice about Gatsby’s house?

2. Why does Gatsby want to take Nick to Coney Island? What is he hoping to find out?

3. What does Gatsby wear to lunch? What is the significance of his attire?

4. Explain the significance of the broken mantelpiece clock. What can you conclude about the nature of time, especially as it relates to Gatsby?

5. What mistake does Gatsby make when telling Daisy about how he acquired his wealth? Why is this an error?

6. What makes Daisy cry in Gatsby’s house? Why?

7. Explain Daisy’s statement about wanting to push Gatsby around on clouds.

8. Gatsby tells Daisy about the green light at the end of her dock. Why has he over-romanticized her, and how has this dictated his life?

***Chapter VI***

1. How do the rumors about Gatsby tie into the theme of illusion and reality?

2. Who is James Gatz? Where is he from?

3. How/why does James Gatz become Jay Gatsby?

4. Characterize young Gatsby.

5. What does Dan Cody’s yacht represent to Gatsby, and how does it start his initiation into the world of the wealthy?

6. Why does Tom want to come to Gatsby’s party?

7. Nick views the events of the party through Daisy’s eyes. Explain.

8. Why does Tom not want to be seen?

9. The dream begins to disintegrate, to Nick, at this party. How does his perception change and why?

10. What is Gatsby’s concern about Daisy and the party? Is it valid?

11. Gatsby is trapped in the past, and Daisy is entrenched in her present. Why is this problematic?

12. “ ‘Can’t repeat the past?’ [Gatsby] cried incredulously. ‘Why of course you can!’ ” Why is this statement poignant, yet sad?

13. The chapter ends with the following sentence: “But they made no sound and what I had almost remembered was uncommunicable forever.” Explain.